

**Ministry of  
Labour**

**2017/18 – 2019/20  
SERVICE PLAN**

September 2017



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Published by the Ministry of Labour

## Minister Accountability Statement



The *Ministry of Labour 2017/18 - 2019/20 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Bains', written over a horizontal line.

Honourable Harry Bains  
Minister of Labour  
August 30, 2017

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## Purpose of the Ministry

To build a better British Columbia, the [Ministry of Labour](#) promotes fair, healthy, and safe labour and employment relationships in support of a strong, sustainable and innovative economy.

In this context, the Ministry has overall responsibility for British Columbia's labour and employment statutes – including the *Labour Relations Code*, the *Employment Standards Act*, and the *Workers Compensation Act* – and for the effective administration and enforcement of those statutes. The Ministry has legislative responsibility for [WorkSafeBC](#), the [Labour Relations Board](#), the [Employment Standards Tribunal](#) and the [Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal](#).

The Employment Standards Branch and the Ministry's three administrative tribunals are involved in managing complaints and issues that have been brought before them. In all cases, timely and accurate disposition of those complaints or issues is an essential component of a fair and balanced system of labour and employment laws that is readily accessible to all stakeholders.

For more information about the Ministry's areas of responsibility and key initiatives, visit the [Ministry of Labour](#) website.

## Ministry Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures

The Ministry of Labour's goals are to help government achieve the following three commitments to British Columbians:

- The first commitment is to make life more affordable. British Columbians are counting on government to make their lives easier by containing costs and service fees.
- The second commitment is to deliver the services that people count on. Government services touch the lives of British Columbians every day, and there is so much more that we can – and must – do to provide these services where and when people need them. Additionally, in many cases, critical programs and services are delivered by Crown Corporations, and our Ministry will work with Board Chairs to improve levels of service to citizens.
- The third commitment is to build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone. Our government believes that all ministries and public sector organizations have a role to play in supporting broad-based economic growth, developing poverty reduction strategies, and helping create good-paying jobs in every region of the province.

Integrating with these priorities is government's commitment to true, lasting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia, as we move towards fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Beyond our work in supporting these commitments, the Minister of Labour has been tasked in the [mandate letter](#) to achieve the following specific objectives and performance targets:

- Establish a Fair Wages Commission to support the work of implementing the \$15-per-hour minimum wage and to bring forward recommendations to close the gap between the minimum wage and livable wages. The commission will make its first report within 90 days of its first meeting.
- Begin work to create a Temporary Foreign Worker registry to help protect vulnerable workers from exploitation and to track the use of temporary workers in our economy.
- Update employment standards to reflect the changing nature of workplaces and ensure they are applied evenly and enforced.
- Review and develop options with WorkSafeBC to increase compliance with employment laws and standards put in place to protect the lives and safety of workers.
- Ensure British Columbians have the same rights and protections enjoyed by other Canadians by reviewing the Labour Code to ensure workplaces support a growing, sustainable economy with fair laws for workers and businesses.

Our Ministry will continue to develop specific objectives and performance measures for inclusion in our 2018/19 – 2020/21 Service Plan, which will be released with *Budget 2018*.

## Resource Summary

<b>Core Business Area</b>	<b>2016/17 Restated<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2017/18 Estimates</b>	<b>2018/19 Plan</b>	<b>2019/20 Plan</b>
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
<b>Labour Programs<sup>1</sup></b>	9,653	10,001	10,086	9,836
<b>Executive and Support Services</b>	1,523	1,523	1,532	1,532
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,176</b>	<b>11,524</b>	<b>11,618</b>	<b>11,368</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>				
<b>Labour Programs</b>	3	3	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2016/17 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2017/18 Estimates.

## **Appendix A: Ministry Contact Information**

### **Minister's Office**

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To learn more about the numerous programs and services provided by the Ministry of Labour, please visit the [Ministry website](#).

To find a specific person or program in the Ministry of Labour, you can use the [B.C. Government Directory](#).